

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-20:

Please add the following claims:

21. Intervertebral disk prosthesis comprising an upper plate, a lower plate, and a core, an upper convex surface of the core being in contact with at least part of a lower concave surface of the upper plate and a lower surface of the core being in contact with at least part of an upper surface of the lower plate, and the upper plate being moveable at least with respect to the core, and in which there are cooperation means not located in the middle of the core between the lower plate and the core, so as to limit or eliminate translation movements of the core with respect to the lower plate, around an axis substantially parallel to the lower plate, and to limit or eliminate rotation movements of the core with respect to the lower plate around an axis substantially perpendicular to the lower plate, the planes passing through the upper and lower plates forming a substantially constant angle.

22. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which the lower plate comprises male means cooperating with female means of the core.

23. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which the lower plate comprises female means cooperating with male means of the core.

24. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to any one of the claims 21, 22, or 23 in which the angle is obtained in that the core forms an acute angle in a front-rear direction.

25. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 24, in which the lower plate and the upper plate are assembled with a second core rather than the core and the second core has a thickness that differs from the thickness of the core.

26. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to any one of claims 24 or 25, in which the angle between the upper and lower plates is between 0° and 15°.

27. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which the core is movable with respect to the upper and/or lower plates, to compensate for relative positioning defects between the upper plate, the lower plate and the core of the prosthesis.

28. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which at least part of the lower surface of the upper plate is concave and complementary to the upper surface of the core.

29. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which the dimensions of each male means are slightly less than those of each female means so as to enable a slight clearance between the core and the lower plate.

30. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which the dimensions of each male means are substantially the same as those of each female means so as to inhibit clearance between the core and the lower plate.

31. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 22 or 24, in which the male means of the lower plate are two pins curved towards the inside of the prosthesis and located opposite each other on two edges of the prosthesis, and in that the female means of the core are two recesses.

32. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 31, in which at least one of the pins is replaced by a lug equipped with a drilling whereon a tag using a dowel entering the drilling.

33. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claims 22 or 24, in which the male means of the lower plate are two dowel pins located proximal to the center of the lower plate, in which the female means of the core are two wells.

34. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claims 22 or 24, in which the male means of the lower plate are two walls located opposite each other in proximal to two edges of the prosthesis, and in which the female means of the core are recesses.

35. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claims 22 or 24, in which the male means of the lower plate are a rib located at the center of the prosthesis, and in which the female means of the core are a groove.

36. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which the core is made of polyethylene.

37. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which the lower plate comprises one or more openings proximal to its front side, provided to receive prosthesis anchoring means in a vertebra.

38. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 37, in which the opening of the lower plate is rectangular, and in which the anchoring means comprise a body, forming an acute angle with the lower plate, and a head.

39. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 37, in which the openings of the lower plate are circular, and in which the anchoring means are nail-shaped.

40. Intervertebral disk prosthesis according to claim 21, in which the upper plate is convex on at least part of its upper surface to fit into the shape of the vertebrae.

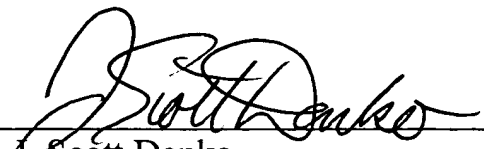
REMARKS

The present preliminary amendment is filed contemporaneously with the identified application filed under 35 USC § 371. The Applicants request that this preliminary amendment be entered and considered with the application.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDREWS KURTH, L.L.P.

Date: May 4, 2005

By: 
d. Scott Denko
Registration No. 37,606
111 Congress Avenue
Suite 1700
Austin, Texas 78701
Telephone: (512) 320-9200
Facsimile: (512) 320-9292